CANADA:

ITS PROGRESS AND ITS PROSPECTS.

A LECTURE

DELIVERED BY

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To which is added an Appendix containing some remarks in reference to the Progress of Canada since the date of the Lecture.

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PREFACE!

This Lecture, when published in the TIMES, was well received by the public, and has since been frequently referred to, but it has now almost disappeared, and a suggestion has been made to me to republish it in Pamphlet form, which I now do, with the permission of JOHN LYNCH, Esq., who has made some addition, showing the satisfactory progress of the Dominion down to the present time.

The Pamphlet may be had at this Office, and from Book Sell- at the low price of 20 Cents, which is merely for the purpose of covering the expense of publication.

GEO. TYE.

Brampton, June, 1876.

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It has always been to me a subject of regret that so many of the people of Canada are somewhat deficient in that love and pride of the Country of their home which, I think, generally prevails among the people of other countries. There is a reason for this deficiency in the fact that we are a mixed people, mostly composed of immigrants from various other countries, and their descendants, and it takes the immigrant a long time to reconcile himself to the many differences he finds between his native country and that of his adoption; so long, indeed, that before that is accomplished he has, probably, impressed his children with many of his own prejudices. In our feelings and aspirations we are two much English, Irish, Scotch, Dutch or American, and not sufficiently *Canadian*. The Englishman can see nothing worthy of notice in "this here Canada," as one of them contemptuously called it. The Irishman sorely misses the "ould sod"; the Scotchman considers every thing in Canada stale and flat, when compared with the splendid mountains and healthful heather of Scotland—even our Canada thistle, which is famed all over the world, is declared to be a small affair when compared with the real Scotch Thistle; the Dutchman cannot love Canada like De Faderland; and the go-ahead American never tires of telling us that "this is not the way they do things in the States."

The criticisms made on the country by immigrants are, no doubt, sometimes very just, but they are very often inconsistent and contradictory. There is great diversity in their censure. It may be directed against the land, against the people, or the direction of the wind. They frequently condemn things in Canada, which, if found in their own country, they would consider good and excellent—perhaps the greatest fault of Canada, in their view, is its youth, its newness; yet it is probable that if the country from which the critic came had been as young and fresh as Canada, he would never have left it. He left his own country because it was too old for him, and he dislikes this country because it is not so old as the country he left.

In the early settlement of this locality, on one occasion, I fell in.

with an Irishman looking after land, and travelled with him a few miles between Dundas Street and this place. After passing through some small clearings we came to a piece of woodland which had not yet been disturbed by the axe. It was a nice rolling land covered with tall beech and maple trees, and to me it seemed a very pleasant sight to look upon. But not so with the Irishman. Peering into the wood as far as his eye could reach, he shook his head mournfully and exclaimed: "Oh! but this is a *wilderness* country." Now, I am certain that if the same scene had met his view in Ireland, his exclamation would have been, "Oh! musha! but isn't that the beautiful grove *intirely!*" So it is with many. Many things found in Canada are considered by the European as poor and contemptible; that had he found in his own country would be justly considered real and great luxuries. This feeling of dissatisfaction is natural, and may be excused in the immigrant, who truly loves the country of his birth—of his first and dearest recollections—and cannot immediately transfer that love to the land of his adoption. But there is another class of fault-finders for whom I can imagine no excuse, unless it be in a disordered condition of their digestive organs—an unhappy class, not, I think, peculiar to Canada; but we have some of them—I mean the regular croakers. You all know the croakers; a class of people who reverse the saying of the poet, that "Whatever *is*, is right," and believe, or profess to believe, that "Whatever *is*, is wrong"—at least, whatever is in their own country. If there is anything which is right, in their view, it is at a great distance, or very difficult of attainment. It is the particular vocation of our croakers to cry down everything in their own country, and to make disparaging comparisons between this country, its institutions and its people, and some other country, its institutions and people. The croaker will seize you by the button, and compel you to listen by the hour to his arguments, shewing that this is the most wretched country, and that we are the most miserable people on the face of the earth, and so often does he repeat those vagaries that he actually makes many people believe them, and sometimes almost believes them himself. The general practice is to compare the progress of Canada with that of our neighboring country, the United States. The United States is undoubtedly a great and prosperous country, and it would not be a matter of surprise that we should fall far behind that country in our onward progress in wealth and population. The United States has the advantage in obtaining population from Europe, by having so great an extent of the Atlantic coast, and by being somewhat better advertised than Canada. I think a comparison with the United States a very proper criterion for ascertaining the progress of our country, if the

comparison be fairly and truthfully made. But those comparsons are very often made in a very loose manner, either without a sufficient knowledge of facts, or a proper regard for them.

Population, and the increase of population, although by no means the only criterion of the progress of a country, is, I think, the best criterion taken alone. If we see a country for a long series of years rapidly and continuously increasing its population, we may be certain that there are other good things in that country besides abundance of men and women, and it is the supposition and the assertion that the United States so far outstrip us in the increase of population, that is continually brought forward as proof of their greeter prosperity, and of our inferiority. We are told that while the United States are doubling their population every few years, *we*, in Canada, are lagging behind, almost at a stand-still, and it is a strange and remarkable fact that a large portion of the people of Canada actually believe those oft repeated statements.

It is my purpose this evening to show that such an idea is a most absurd falacy; and that, instead of lagging behind, Canada has far the last half century increased in population at a ratio far exceeding that of the whole United States, and of the most prosperous and favoured States of the Union taken separately.

We will begin with Lower Canada, which is in many respects inferior to Upper Canada, and behind her in progress. It is not nearly so good an Agricultural Country, the climate is not so favorable and perhaps there may be something in the superiority of the Anglo Saxon race with which Upper Canada is principally peopled. We will now see how the population of Lower Canada has increased in comparison with that of the United States, and with separate States immediately adjoining Lower Canada, commencing with the year 1790 when the first census was taken in the United States, a short time after that country had achieved its independence and taken its position amongst the nations of the world.

During the French rule Lower Canada had advanced very slowly, the French settlers being almost continually engaged in wars with the Indians, or with the British settlers in New York and the new England provinces.

In the year 1535, more than three centuries ago, Jacques Cartier, a celebrated and enterprising French navigator, made the first landing at Quebec, then the Indian town of Stadacona. But he could not effect a permanent settlement, for, of the few settlers he left there, those who survived starvation were taken back to France some years afterwards.

The next attempt at settlement was made by Samuel Champlain,

a name always to be held in respect by Canadians. Champlain was a thorough going practical, energetic man, and had he been properly supported by the French Government, he would have made Canada a prosperous country, even at that early day. On the third day of July 1608, nearly a century after the first landing of Cartier, he laid the foundation of the present city of Quebec, and in the year 1617 the first census of Canada was taken, when it was found that the whole white population of Canada amounted to fifty two persons, men, women, and children. We are not certain that any addition to this population was made until four years afterwards, when a very important, and a very interesting event occurred in the history of our country. On the twenty-fourth day of May, 1621, the first child of European parents was born in Canada, when the population of the country may be said to have commenced in the regular manner; Eustache Marten was the name of the first white Canadian baby.

From this time the population slowly increased until Canada was ceded to Great Britain in 1760, when it amounted to about 60,000.

In 1790, the year in which the first census was taken in the United States, it was computed at 123,000. This was considerably more than doubling the population in thirty years, which may be considered a very rapid increase for that period, as it is an ascertained fact that populations did not increase nearly so fast in old times as they have done in later years.

These are two circumstances which must have been favorable to the increase of population during that period. The flow of immigration from Great Britain and Ireland, which would naturally follow the accession of Canada by the British Government, and the fact that the American revolution had been accomplished during that period, and a considerable number of loyal refuges from the revolted States, had sought and found a home in the new country of Canada.

It is supposed that from ten to fifteen thousand of the inhabitants at that time were in Upper Canada, settled along the river St. Lawrence, Cataraqui near Kingston, and along the Niagara and Detroit rivers, leaving the population of Lower Canada, as nearly as I have been able to ascertain, about 110,000; when the population of the United States was 3,929,827, very nearly four millions. It is at this period, 1790, that I wish to commence the comparison.

I had prepared a series of tables and estimates, exhibiting the increase in population of Canada, and of Upper Canada, and Lower

Canada, separately. Each compared with the United States and with each of our immediately neighboring States, separately, and taken at different periods since the independence of the United States, but I find that the statement would be too lengthy and tiresome. I shall therefore spare you the infliction, and confine myself to a few general statements.

The census has been regularly taken in the United States, every ten years, commencing with 1790, but in Lower Canada we have no further certain account of the population until 1825, when it is given as 423,630, showing that the population had nearly twice doubled itself in thirty-five years—while we find by the United States census that that country had just about twice doubled its population in 1837, thus accomplishing in 47 years the same advance that Lower Canada had attained in thirty-five years. Lower Canada has not always maintained the same excess over the United States, but during the whole period of seventy years, from 1790 to 1860, her increase has been as five to four of that of the United States, her population having multiplied itself by ten, in that time, while that of the United States has multiplied itself by eight. The States of the Union, joining on Lower Canada, are Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont, and during the same period of 70 years, the proportional increase of her population has been as nine to five and a half of that of Maine; four to one of Vermont, and eight to one of Newhampshire. In later years this superiority has been much greater than the average of the whole, as during the last ten years the incsease of population of Lower Canada has been as four to one of that of Maine; eleven to one of that of Newhampshire, and one hundred to one of that of Vermont—Vermont having increased less than one thousand, while Lower Canada has increased 244,891. This speaks badly for the famous "Green Mountain Boys"; and this is the way poor Lower Canada has been lagging behind her neighbors.

Taking Canada altogether as compared with the United States, the first census of the United States taken in 1790, as I have said, shows a population of 3,929,827, when that of all Canada was 123,000.

The population of the United States was thus very nearly thirty two times that of Canada, when at the last census of both countries, taken in 1860, the population of the United States was only twelve and a half times that of Canada, showing that the advance of Canada had been more than double that of the United States.

Upper Canada in 1811, had according to Bouchette, 77,000 inhabitants, and the United States in 1810 contained 7,239,812—94 times that of Upper Canada. In 1860, the United States con-

tained a little over 22½ times that of Upper Canada, so that Upper Canada had increased four times as much in the last forty-nine years as the United States had done in the last fifty years. This great Superiority cannot be expected to continue in the same proportion as the countries grow older and more settled, but the very latest comparison is very satisfactory. At the last census, Upper Canada had increased in twelve years, from 1848 to 1860 —79 per cent, or at the rate of six and two-thirds per cent per annum, while the United States had increased in ten years thirty-five and two-fifths per cent, or three and á half per cent per annum, a little more than half the progress of Upper Canada.

The three most populous and most prosperous states of the Union. New York, Pennsylvania and Ohio, lie immediately opposite to Upper Canada, separated from us only by the waters which are common to both countries. The two former are considerably behind the whole Union in progress and consequently far behind Upper Canada. The ratio of increase of Upper Canada has been nearly six to one more than that of New York, and over seven to one more than Pennsylvania.

Ohio has increased much faster than New York or Pennsylvania, but Upper Canada has exceeded that State in increase for the last half century, nearly two to one, and for the last decade, nearly three to one.

It may seem inconsistent that the whole United States, which is made up of *all* the States, good and bad, should increase in population faster than some of her best and most prosperous States. The reason is that the Union has been acquiring additional territory, by purchase, annexation, or conquest—as Louisiana, Florida, Texas, California, New Mexico, &c. Many of those Territories contained considerable population, and thereby showed an increase of population at each succeeding census much more than what belonged to the original territory of the Union. When this fact is taken into consideration, the superior progress of Canada will be found still greater than it appears by the foregoing statement.

The only other State which fronts on Upper Canada is Michigan. This State was partially settled by the French at Detroit Mackinaw and Green Bay, but the population did not increase very much until about the year 1820, since which time it has increased very rapidly, more rapidly than Upper Canada. Its population now is somewhat more than half that of Upper Canada.

The figures I have quoted are taken from the Official Census Returns of Canada and of the United States, and as I have shown they prove the following facts :- -That for the last half century Lower Canada has been progressing at a rate compared with th

United States of five to four—all Canada at the rate of two to one —and Upper Canada at the rate of four to one and that both Provinces have exceeded in progress the separate States respectively adjoining on them.

How utterly absurd and untrue then must be the statement, continually dinned in our ears, that the United States is progressing so much faster than Canada.

That country has undoubtedly made great strides in her progress and, as I have before remarked, we need not be surprised or displeased if she had considerably excelled us. But when we find that it is a positive fact that our progress is more than two to one of that country—why should we not be satisfied? Setting comparisons aside for the present, let us now consider the real value of our country.

It is by some, considered matter of regret that we have no antiquity to look back upon. It is true that we have no crumbling ruins—no old haunted castles with fabulous legends—no ancient families who can trace back their genealogy much further than the flood ; but for my part I am willing to dispense with those and other similar advantages, because I must consider the *absence* of those things—the *youth* of our country, as one of the greatest of the many advantages we do possess. I am quite willing to leave to the curious antiquary some thousands of years hence, the pleasure of puzzling his brains in trying to ascertain the exact spot where the ancient Town of Brampton once stood. I am satisfied to know that it is here now growing and prospering, and that when I finally leave it, an event that cannot be far distant, it will still be in its ascension, and not in its decline.

There are three sources of wealth and prosperity which are desirable in a country—Agriculture, Commerce and Manufactures—and a country which possesses reasonable facilities for the pursuits of these branches of industry, and is inhabited by a good, industrious, and a *united* people, must and will be a good and prosperous country Canada has many advantages for the profitable pursuits of agriculture. It has a rich productive soil, and a climate suitable for the perfection of the most valuable and useful agricultural productions ; and I am happy to be able to say that the people of Canada have well availed themselves of those advantages. Our present agricultural condition is probably not inferior to that of any country in America either in respect to individual industry, or our public institutions. The Bureau of Agriculture, with its appendages, the Boards of Agriculture, Agricultural Associations, and numerous local Agricultural societies, have tended to systematize the practice or Agriculture, and are, undoubtedly, of much

benefit to the country. All kinds of plants cannot be cultivated in the same climate, some descriptions require a degree of heat that would be fatal to others. In Canada we cannot profitably cultivate cotton, nor oranges, nor tea, but we produce abundance of wheat, and nearly all other kinds of grain and roots that are useful and necessary. The surplus of our produce is easily exchanged by way of commerce, for those articles we cannot produce. For our surplus wheat and barley, we can obtain cotton and tea, on terms advantageous to ourselves, and those with whom we exchange. It is evidently a great advantage that there are many useful and desirable articles which cannot be produced in all countries. The necessity for change and traffic is the means of promoting a friendly and profitable intercourse among the peoples of different countries. Such an intercourse and fair exchange of commodities and of opinions must prove beneficial in many respects—it will not only foster good feelings and promote the *material* advantage of both parties, but it will probably improve their intelligence and increase their knowledge also, as each party will be very apt to learn something useful from the other.

Agriculture is the first main dependence of a new country, and Canada is as yet essentially an agricultural country. Her commerce, however, is, even now, by no means contemptible, and her facilities for becoming a great commercial nation are all that can be required. Our great inland navigation holds out advantages for commerce which can scarcely be excelled. It brings the traffic of the world almost to every man's door. A ship may be freighted with copper ore at the mines of Lake Superior, 2,000 miles inland and carry her cargo without transhipment to Liverpool or to Calcutta, and return with a cargo of tea, oranges or cotton. A considerable portion of this inland navigation is open to the United States in common with Canada, and the people of that country justly value this privilege as one of the chief advantages of their country.

We have not as yet any very extensive manufactories in Canada; nor do I think we should be too anxious to see such establishments hurried on. They will be very likely to come at the proper time. Large factories require large capital to commence with, and large business to be carried on with success, and it is better to wait until the country is more densely populated, and more men of extensive means shall be found, than to have attempts made for which the country is not prepared, and which would probably prove failures, and consequently injurious to the country. There are many manufactured articles which, in the present state of the country, we can procure as we do our tea and our cotton, by

exchange, in a more advantageous manner than by producing them in our own country. We have, however, very great facilities for manufactories, whenever men of capital and enterprise shall consider it safe and profitable to make the investment. We have in almost all parts of Canada abundance of water-power for driving any kind of machinery, and a very great variety of raw materials.

The natural resources of Canada are abundant and various. The principal natural resources made available by the early settlers were the furs and fisheries. The former of these was then a source of great profit, but is now nearly exhausted, except in the more remote districts where it is still carried on to a considerable extent. The fisheries still continue to be a source of wealth, capable of being greatly extended. The *timber* of Canada has been and is still better than a gold mine. It has already brought a great deal of wealth to Canada, and the supply still continues abundant. It furnishes employment to a great number of men, and is the means of circulating much money amongst industrious people.

The *mineral* wealth of Canada, is immense; and the effect it shall produce in our country cannot now be safely calculated. The development may not be so speedy nor so transient as of the gold mines of California and Australia, which afforded rapid wealth to a few and became nearly exhausted. Our mines are of a more solid character, and will not, probably, bring immediate fortunes, to many individuals, and then pass away, but will afford profitable employment to great numbers of laborers and others, for ages to come.

It is, I believe, considered by economists that mines of the common and useful minerals are more valuable to a country than those of the precious metals, and ours are mostly of the former class. Along the north shore of lake Huron runs a range of bare, barren rocks, destitute of timber, and with scarcely any appearance of vegetation—seen from the water it presents a most dreary appearance, and you would suppose that no human habitation could be found in that desolate region—yet here and there, along that rugged coast; you will find a thriving little village with busy, industrious and happy people. What are they doing there? They are breaking up these rocks into fragments, crushing the fragments into powder, and washing out the copper ore to be shipped for England. When we find a tract of barren rocky land, totally unfit for agricultural purposes, we must not therefore, conclude that that land is useless. Though it will not produce wheat or corn, it may be rich with copper, iron or gold. In the interior, some distance behind this barren coast, is a tract of good farming land, which, before many

years will probably be settled and cultivated, and the farmers and the miners will be of much use and comfort to each other.

We may form some idea of the value and importance of our minerals by refering to the extraordinary interest some specimens of them excited at all three of the world's exhibitions which have been held at London and Paris.

In 1851 Sir William Logan prepared an assortment of samples, which were exhibited at the first exhibition in London, and on which the jury made a special report declaring them to be "superior to the exhibition of minerals by all the other countries." Again in 1855, at Paris, his collection received the very highest honor that could be bestowed, the "Grand Medal of honor." This was not only the highest honor, but one which was very rare, being limited to twenty eight for the whole exhibition—and this was solely for their intrinsic value, for they were in their natural rude state, while they had to compete with other specimens elaborately worked and polished.

At the Exhibition of 1862, at London, Sir William had prepared a more extensive collection (of which he published a descriptive catalogue in pamphlet form.) There were over four hundred specimens, and they were divided into ten classes as follows:

1 Metals and their ores.

2. Minerals applicable to chemical manufactures.

3. Refractory minerals (for resisting fire.)

4. Minerals applicable to common and decorative construction.

5. Grinding and polishing minerals.

6 Mineral manures.

7. Mineral plants.

8. Minerals applicable to the fine arts.

9. Minerals applicable to jewelry.

10. Miscellaneous Minerals.

Besides these there were a large collection of the cristalline rocks of Canada.

Of the first class, metals and their ores, he gives a minute description of over a hundred different specimens, with the particular place where each was obtained. They included iron, lead, copper, silver, gold, and several other metals. The success of Canada at

these exhibitions of all nations, prove clearly that Canada is possessed of very great latent riches in her mines, the full value of which may be slow of development, but the realization will be not less certain, and those mines must ultimately prove a source of great and lasting wealth and importance to Canada.

Iron appears to be amongst the most abundant of our useful metals, and has been already used to a considerable extent at Three Rivers, in Lower Canada, where iron of the first quality has been manufactured for many years. The convenience of those mines to the river, affording facilities for working them with success, while others equally good were too remote to be made available.

The best beds of iron ore are supposed to be those of Marmora, in the County of Hastings, and many unsuccessful attempts have been made to bring them into operation. The remoteness of their situation, and the want of proper means of communication rendering every attempt abortive. Now, that gold is said to be found in great abundance in the immediate neighborhood, it is probable that the approaches to that district will be improved, and the iron, as well as the gold, be brought into use.

While speaking of the great success of Canada at the world's exhibitions, it must be understood that it is not in minerals alone that she has excelled.

Canada has indeed held a very high position at each of those exhibitions of all nations, the articles she exhibited being superior in number and quality to those of many other conutries of far greater pretensions. Canada considerably excelled our neighbors of the United States at every one of those exhibitions. This may be partly accounted for, as to the London exhibitions, by the unhappy anti-British feeling which prevails among many of the people of those states, and which at times afflicts them very severely. It confessedly prevented their sending nearly so many articles to the exhibitions at London as they otherwise would have done. But there could be nothing of that kind to interfere with their exhibiting at Paris in 1855; and it is supposed that they would do their best on that occasion. At that exhibition we find that 75 prizes were awarded to the United States, and *ninety-six* to Canada. I have in my possession a very gratifying evidence of our success at those exhibitions, being a medal awarded to the County of Peel Agricultural Society for wheat, barley and peas, exhibited at the London Exhibition of 1862.

If these remarks be correct, I think we must all be satisfied—

that Canada is naturally a good country. Let us next consider whether the people—the inhabitants of this favored country are equally good, and whether they have made, and will make the best use of the many advantages the country affords. Looking back over our comparatively brief history, I think the people of Canada as a people, have not much reason to be ashamed—even from the first landing of Jacques Cartier to the present day. Canada has, ever since its first settlement by Europeans, been inhabited by a spirited, industrious, and enterprising people. The time of the French rule in Canada was a period of much interest, and must be especially so to us, as it is the only ancient history of our country. The present French population of Lower Canada are considered a quiet, dull, steady sort of people, who would not be likely to do much good or harm to anybody, and could never be suspected of setting fire to the River St. Lawrence. They are supposed to be particularly deficient in enterprise; yet when they had the sole possession of the country they exhibited most extraordinary enterterprise, particularly in exploring this "wilderness country." When their most westerly regular settlement was at Montreal, they had many forts and military stations extending far into the country, and besides these they had fur trading posts extending to Hudson's Bay on the north, to the Rocky Mountains on the west, and to the Mississippi on the south. It is a remarkable fact that the great river Mississippi was first discovered and explored (from the falls of St. Anthony, to the Gulf of Mexico), by exploring expeditions from Canada, and before the surrender of Canada to Great Britain, the French possessions in North America, comprised all the interior of the country from Hudson's Bay to the Gulf of Mexico.

Their manner of traversing the wilderness must have been very fatiguing, but they seemed to enjoy it. Their voyages were made in bark canoes, in which they had to carry their provisions and other necessaries, and with those they pursued their way indifferently over land and water. When they had to take to the land they carried their canoes and luggage over the portages; and then launched them again and paddled their way onward, cheered by their own never failing songs.

On one occasion in the year 1615, Governor Champlain accompained a party of Indians in bark canoes to Lake Huron, and remained among the islands, or on the north and west shores, all the following winter. His object was partly to explore the country, and partly to conciliate the Indians whom he assisted in battle against their enemies, the Iroquois. It would be something remarkable in our day for a Governor of Canada to spend a winter in the north, on the islands of Lake Huron.

I must recite one more piece of history of the French Dominion, a striking instance of the untiring enterprize of those people. In 1678 Monsieur De LaSalle, a young Frenchman of fortune, determined to spend a portion of it in a journey to the Mississippi. He built a small vessel—the first on Lake Ontario—at Fort Frontenac, now Kingston, and with a small party, sailed across Lake Ontario, to Fort Niagara, where he remained all winter trading with the Indians. In the spring he moved his stores up the river above the Falls, and there in the woods actually built a vessel of sixty tons burden, which he fully rigged and armed with seven pieces of cannon.

During all the time this work was going on the French were jealously watched by the Indians, who made several attempts to burn the vessel on the stocks, so that they were obliged to launch it before it was quite finished, to get out of the reach of the Indians. When it was finished, they towed it up the river into Lake Erie, and sailed up that Lake, then through the other lakes and rivers into Green Bay, on Lake Michigan. Here LaSalle freighted the vessel with furs to the value of ten thousand dollars, and despatched her on her return voyage with the pilot and five men, while he and his friends pursued their course to the Mississippi. Nothing more was heard of the vessel or her crew.

We will now leave the French dominion and come to British Canada. A few days ago I was in the Court House, and had the pleasure of hearing Chief Justice Richards deliver his charge to the Grand Jury, at the first Court of Assize ever held in the County of Peel. In alluding to the transition we were now undergoing in the Confederation of the British Provinces, he expressed a hope that the change might prove as beneficial as the last change we had experienced—the union of Upper and Lower Canada—which he declared had been highly advantageous to the people of both Provinces. This was exactly in accordance with my own opinion, and on considering the subject it occured to me that every material change which had been made in the Constitution of Canada had been beneficial.

The first great change, the cession of Canada from the French to the British government was certainly beneficial, not merely by becoming British, which in itself was a benefit, but because under the French dominion Canada could not have attained the position it now holds. Not for want of energy in the French Canadians, for I think I have shown that they were not deficient in that respect, but that the country could not have become sufficiently populous. France could not supply a sufficient population, and the people of Great Britain and Ireland would not emigrate to a French colony. But

when Canada became British a large influx of British population succeeded and soon prepared the way for the next material change—the division of the Province of Quebec, as it was then called into Upper and Lower Canada—and why was this change necessary or beneficial?

By the treaty in which Canada was ceded to Great Britian it was provided that the French settlers should be allowed to retain most of their French laws and customs. As many of those laws and customs were distasteful to British immigrants, it was a fortunate provision that Upper Canada was distinctly set apart with institutions and laws distinctly British. The consequence was that immigrants from England, Ireland, Scotland, Germany, and the United States, flocked to Upper Canada and soon changed its appearance, by converting large portions of the dense forest into cultivated fields, dotted with thriving Towns and Villages.

But when the separation of the provinces had been so advantageous why should a re-union be beneficial? Because with the growth of the two provinces in wealth and importance, had grown up also an antagonistic feeling between the two races—British and French, and a union between them, though distasteful to both at the commencement, was found in practice to partially remove their unwise and unprofitable prejudices, and to enable the two races to work harmoniously together, for the general good of their common country. The necessary friction induced by the assemblages of the representatives of the two peoples in the same Legislative Halls had the desired effect of smoothing down the rough angles of both races and each party found out and *candidly acknowledged* that the other was not nearly so bad as it had been painted. The result was that Canada grew and prospered more than either part had previously done alone, and during the quarter of a century of its existence has far more than doubled its population and its wealth.

When matters were found to prosper so well under the Union, the expediency of any material change might well be considered doubtful, yet I think there were good reasons for seeking the change.

The controversy on the subject of Representation by Population was gradually undermining the good understanding which had been established between the two races, and threatened to renew all the old sectional and national prejudices. Confederation will effectually dispose of the representation question and avert the evil which it was likely to produce. This may be considered only a negative good, but I do think that we may reasonably expect positive and important benefits from the united action of British

North America, for I have no doubt that "Canada" will include *all* British North America from the Atlantic to the Pacific, with the North Pole for its base.

British Columbia and Vancouvers Island has already expressed their desire to be admitted into the Confederacy.

Newfoundland and Prince Edward's Island, will undoubtedly soon do the same, and the Dominion of Canada will be the second power on the continent of America, with Upper Canada under the new and appropriate name of Ontario—the brightest and choicest jewel of the lot—for its centre, and metropolitan province.

It has frequently been suggested that we would probably at some future day be separated from Great Britian, and become an independent nation. Such an event is certainly possible, but it is one which we cannot and do not desire.

Such a change, apart from any question of patriotism, which however will not be forgotten, would most certainly be a serious loss to Canada. And what would we gain by it? As to independence, the change would be in the name only, for if we are not really independent now, I do not know the meaning of the word. If independence means the privilege of doing just what we like, even to the extent of taxing the goods of Great Britian for our benefit, then it must be admitted that we are a perfectly independent people. We generally condemn the old American Colonies for their rebellion, and plume ourselves on our superior loyalty. We may perhaps justly condemn them, but we have no right to claim much credit to ourselves by comparison, for we have not had the same trial. The American colonies rebelled because the British Government laid a tax on their property for the benefit of Great Britain, and if we were now taxed in the same manner, I could not answer for the consequences. But we are spared the experiment. Instead of being taxed by the British Government, we in Canada actually levy a tax on British property for our benefit. A tax is imposed, even on the goods of the Queen when brought to Canada, and the Queen, God bless her, submits to the imposition with the most exemplary good nature. She does not rebel. She pays her tribute and submits. The fact is that our connection with Great Britain is a bond by which we have all the advantages. The only way in which we feel the chain that connects us, is by the benefits we receive from it. I am fully satisfied that our connection with Great Britian is of such advantage to us, that no other possible arrangement could compensate us for having that connection severed.

This is putting the question on a low basis, that of shillings and

pence, but it is one that has much weight in the affairs of nations as well as individuals. But there is, I am happy to know, a higher motive for our desire to continue our connection in the British patriotism which pervades all classes of all those British provinces now about being united in one Federal Dominion. So that our feelings and our pecuniary interests are identical. It is no wonder then that the many direct and indirect attempts which have been made to create disaffection in Canada, and induce us to consent to annexation under the stars and stripes of our neighbors, should have proved such utter failures and be treated with the contempt they so richly deserve.

I have already alluded to the liberties we possess, as a really independent country while nominally subject to Great Britian. And I would add that our own Legislature have so far carried out the good work as to make the people of Canada the freest people of the world. At least in my opinion; if there be any other people, possessing so much civil and political freedom as we possess, I do not know their whereabouts.

The people of the United States of course, profess to be decidedly the freest people in the world; and they certainly have very excellent institutions, and are a great and a free people. They have had many very superior statesmen, who have laboured hard to make their institutions perfect but with much less pretensions, the Legislature of Canada, with the concurrence and assistance of the British Government, have established a system of Government and laws, which confer more real freedom upon the community, in my opinion, than prevails in the United States.

Our political and Municipal Institutions are so constructed as to place all power both for Legislative and Executive purposes, directly in the hands of the people, and therefore if we have no good laws and good government it is our own fault.

A great responsibility is placed in the hands of the electors of Canada for both Political and Municipal purposes, and it is most desirable that they should seriously consider the importance of the trust reposed in them, and be careful to use their power for the real good of themselves and their country

Our Municipal system has been pronounced by some who should be considered good judges, to be the best in the world, and our school system, perhaps the most important of all, cannot be better recommended than by referring to the most satisfactory state of our own Brampton Schools.

To return to my first complaint, that we are not sufficiently

Canadian in our feelings. It is surprising how few Canadians we meet in society, ; you may, in this town, go into company where you will meet a large number of young people who never in their lives have been a hundred miles from Brampton, but who, on enquiry will be found to be all English, Irish, or Scotch, not one Canadian, although, probably not one of them have ever been out of Canada. I have already stated my full confidence in the British patriotism of Canadians. I believe we are all sound on that question, but there is a great deficiency in Canadian patriotism, which I would like to see corrected. In being thoroughly Canadian we need not be the less British, for I trust we shall never be other than British Canadians.

Respecting the latter part of my subject—"The Prospects" of Canada, I have little to say, but that, under Divine Providence. our future weal or woe will depend very much upon ourselves ; if we wisely and prudently use the many advantages placed in our possession, we have the prospect of becoming a prosperous and a happy people, but if we neglect or abuse those advantages, it would be far better for us had we never possessed them. It was said by some American statesman, I cannot now give his name, but I think it was Mr. Seward, that "the people of Canada, if true to themselves, would yet become a great, prosperous and powerful people."

I fully believe in that statement. Canada has all the elements of greatness and prosperity, and it will be the fault of the people if they do not attain that position, but they can attain it only on the conditions mentioned.

They must be "true to themselves." They must be united. They must be all Canadians. They may be English, Irish, Scotch, Germans, or Americans. When they have leisure for more important duties, and they may be Clear Grits and Tories at election times. But when Canada is concerned ; when Canada requires their services, they must be Canadians, wholly Canadians, and nothing but British Canadians.

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APRIL 1876.

It is just nine years since this lecture was written for the Brampton Mechanics' Institute, and published in the Brampton TIMES. As it is now about to be published in pamphlet form, it is considered advisable to add a few remarks in reference to the

"Progress" we have made during the past nine years, and our prospects for the future.

According to the Census of 1870-1 the population of Canada has not increased nearly so fast as it has done in former years. Our population, however, is making very resonable progress but it has fallen short of the general expectation, and many people attribute the deficit to error in taking the census. I do not join in that opinion, although there may, very probably, have been remisness in some cases. Indeed the returns contain some entries which somewhat surprise the people of the County of Peel.

In a table giving a list and description of the "Industrial Establishments," we find credited to the County of Peel, under the heading of "Cooperages," Number 1, Hands employed, 1, value of yearly produce $125; under the heading of "Foundries and Machine Working," we find "County of Peel, 1, hands employed, 1, value of produce $250"; "Shingle Factories, 1, hands employed, 3 men and 2 boys, value of articles produced, $3,750," they must have been very good working "hands."

Under the heading of "Jewellers & Watch Makers" the County of Peel is followed by a long blank; and what is more strange, the City of London is left in the same condition. Still those census tables are very useful and very interesting—and they cannot be expected to be entirely free from errors. Those who have to prepare the tables from the original returns must have great labor in putting things in proper shape, and the errors will make the task much more laborious and troublesome. I take it for granted that those errors, or certainly the most of them, are made by the enumerators who first obtained the information from the people, but even they are not so much to blame as might be supposed, for in many cases they would have much difficulty in getting correct answers to their necessary questions.

There is a strange feeling of aversion against this census taking amongst many of the people who ought to know better. Many consider it as a preparation for levying some additional tax, and

others consider any "numbering of the people" to be a great evil. Those facts make the taking of the census a somewhat difficult job, and it is very desirable that careful and reliable people should be selected for such service. To show the desirability of selecting proper persons for taking the census, I here transcribe an extract from Mr. Hutton's report on the Census of 1851-2:

"On the whole the Census of Lower Canada has been taken with greater care than that of the Upper Province, where, unfortunately many of the Enumerators proved themselves wholly unfit for the duties assigned to them; and the negligence and ignorance displayed in the work of these has added materially to the labors of the Office, in the classification and arrangement of the tables. From this charge, however, a great number of the counties are wholly exempt, and in many the work has been performed most admirably by both Commissioners and Enumerators."

The last census is probably as free from errors as those of former years, and we must imagine some other cause for the diminution of our rate of increase than the errors of the census Tables. One very satisfactory cause is that since the census of 1860-1 was taken, large numbers have left Ontario and Quebec to people the new Province of Manitoba, and the great North-West Territory. And some have also gone to British Columbia, so that they are still in Canada. Another reason is, I think, that we do not get so many immigrant settlers as in former years, for although the returns show arrivals in Canada about the same, yet many of them pass through Canada to the new States in the north-west as Wisconsin, Minnesota, and other States and Territories, and it is also a fact that many Canadians have lately emigrated to the States. It is a fact, however, that many are emigrating from those Western States and Territories and settling in Canada,—in the Province of Manitoba and the North-West Territory.

The population of Upper and Lower Canada, according to the census of 1851-2, was 1,842,265, which by the census of 1860-1 was increased to 2,506,755, being an increase of 36 per cent. in nine years. The census of 1870-1 make it 2,812,367, which is an

increase of little over 12 per cent. in ten years. This is still a very respectable increase—especially as we know that many of those who left these Provinces during that decade are still in Canada.

There may be some other cause for the diminution of our rate of increase of population than what has occured to me, for the same thing has happened to the United States, and to each separate State except two, the States of Rhode Island and Vermont, which have both enlarged their increase—Rhode Island from 18.35 per cent. to 24:46 per cent., and Vermont from 0:31 per cent. to 4:91 per cent. Each of the other States—with one exception—has had its population increased to a greater or less extent—some of them very considerably—but taking all the States on an average the diminution of the rate of increase has been much greater than in Canada. The State which has made no increase is New Hampshire, which in the census of 1860-1 showed an increase of 2:55 per cent., in the census of 1870-1 shows a decrease of 2:56 per cent..

These calculations are all made in reference to Ontario and Quebec only, as what constituted the Province of Canada when the census of 1860-1 was taken. The census of 1870-1 included the Provinces of Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, but British Columbia and Manitoba have not been included in that census, nor Prince Edwards Island, which has but lately been added to Canada.

To approximate our present population, we have

By the Census,	Ontario -	- 1,620,851
" "	Quebec - -	1,191,516
" "	New Brunswick -	- 285,594
" "	Nova Scotia -	387,800
Supposed population of	Prince Edward's Island	- 100,000
"	Manitoba -	32,000
"	British Columbia	- 12,000
"	North West Territory -	5,250
	Total, -	- 3,63,635,011

The next census of Canada will probably give a population of

Four Millions. Besides the above we have a very interesting population of Indians, as follows :—

Ontario -	- 15,305
Quebec - -	10,809
Nova Scotia -	- 1,849
New Brunswick - -	1,561
Manitoba and North West Territory	- 25,594
British Columbia - -	31,520
Prince Edward's Island -	- 302
Rupert's Land - -	5,170
Total, -	- 91,910

It is very gratifying to notice the satisfactory condition of the Indians in Canada. They live on good terms with the Government and with their neighbors, and are gradually giving up their nomadic life, and going into the culture of the earth or other profitable occupation to maintain themselves. Most of the Indians of Ontario and Quebec have long since pursued this course, but in the great North-West they remained much in their wild state until the settlement of Manitoba by the white man, which interfered with their hunting and at the same time brought to their view other means of making a living, which means they have in a great measure adopted. Most of the Indians in Manitoba and its neighborhood are now engaged in farming or some other useful occupation. In 1862 there was a large party of the Sioux tribe of Indians, who escaped from the Indian Massacre in Minnesota, came to the British Territory, and for a time caused considerable trouble to the Government, but they were finally settled quite satisfactorily. They got a grant of 15,000 acres of land on which they settled and commenced farming, and are doing well. "They are estimated at about fourteen hundred and fifty in all; they are reported as being sober and industrious."

Some of the Indians have expressed a wish—I think a very reasonable wish—that they might be enfranchised and allowed the same privileges as other British subjects, and it would appear from the report of the Minister of the Interior that an Act was

about to be passed containing provisions for that purpose. And why should not that be done? I certainly can not see that any man,—a man of any other nation—should have a better claim to all the priviliges of a British subject than a Canadian Indian. H is considered a British subject as to any duty or penalty, which I think should not be, unless he is also allowed the privileges. The late Dr. Baldwin, half a century ago, made an attempt in the Upper Canada Parliament, to obtain enfranchisment for "the poor Indian," but he got no encouragement whatever, yet a few years after that, Mr. Brandt, a full-blooded Indian, and a gentleman, sat in the same Parliament, and I never understood that he brought any disgrace on the House.

But the most pleasing feature of the Indian arrangement is the School system. I find that by the Official Report, from which I have quoted above, that there is a large number of Indian Schools which are well attended by Indian children. The following is a list of Schools in each Province and the number of children attending. Ontario has the largest number of Schools, being 50, of which 20 are in the Indian settlements on the Grand River and Thames, and 10 are on the Grand Manitoulin Island

Province.	Number of Schools.	Number of children.
Ontario	50	1,762
Quebec	15	441
Nova Scotia	2	79
Manitoba & N.-W. Territory	13	480
Prince Edward's Island	1	no return
British Columbia	17	1,159
Total,	98	3,921

New Brunswick has none. There are twelve Schools from which no return has been received. If those returns had been received the whole number of scholars would probably be about 4,500. The sexes of the scholars are given, and the number of boys somewhat exceed the number of girls. The sexes of the teachers are not given, but judging from the christian names it would appear that nearly half of them were females.

It is very satisfactory indeed to know that so many Indian children are being properly educated, in a manner which will prepare them for the use and enjoyment of the condition of *real* British subjects, to which position, it is to be hoped, they are to be raised, and it must be confessed, that if they are not so raised, the education will be of little value to them.

I stated in the above Lecture that there were "three sources of wealth and prosperity which were desirable in a Country—Agriculture, Commerce and Manufactures."—and I thought it advisable now to make a few remarks on the progress we had made in these three sources of wealth; but I find I have made a good many "remarks" without making much "progress" in the main subject.

Canada has not prospered so well in Agriculture of late years as it formerly did, more especially in the wheat crop—wheat was the great crop of Canada, especially Upper Canada, and such heavy crops were obtained that the farmers got reckless and over-worked their land in the production of wheat, and were in a fair way of ruining it altogether, when the Midge came in to help them and destroyed a great portion of the wheat for several years. Since then there has not been nearly so much wheat sown, especially on old farms, and barley has become the principal crop and has succeeded very well. The wheat crop of 1870 in Ontario, according to the censns, was 16 291,465 against 27,274,779 in 1860, which was a decrease of over 67 per cent. Other crops turned out pretty fairly. The grain crop altogether exceeded that of 1860 by 16 per cent., the Root crop by 23 per cent., and the value of live stock by 63 per cent., so that our progress in Agriculture is not at all hopeless. The harvest of 1785 has been exceedingly good, and if a census of last years productions had been taken, it would hav shown a rate of increase in Agricultural products, far exceeding that of any previous year.

The Commerce of Canada has increased very satisfactorily during the eight years of Confederation as may be seen by the following

table, which gives the amount of Exports and Imports for each year, and also the amount of duty collected thereon :—

	Tt. Exports.	Tl. Imports.	Duties Collected
Year ending 30th June, 1868	$57,567,888	$ 73,459,644	$ 8,819,431 63
" " 1869	60,474,781	70,415,139	8,298,909 71
" " 1870	73,573,490	74,814,371	9,462,940 44
" " 1871	74,173,618	96,092,965	11,843,665 75
" " 1872	82,639,663	111,430,527	13,045,493 50
" " 1873	89,789,922	128,011,281	13,017,730 17
" " 1874	89,351,928	128,213,582	14,421,288 67
" " 1875	77,886,979	124,070,283	15,361,382 12
	605,458,269	805,507,792	94,271,425 99

It would be more satisfactory if, in our commercial transactions, our imports did not so much exceed our exports. This unpleasant feature appears by the table to have been on the increase for the last few years, and has probably been, to a considerable extent, the cause of the threatened hardness prevailing for the last year or two. It is to be hoped, however, that this evil will tend to correct itself. That Canadians will accept the suggestion of the American statesman and be "true to themselves," and cease to encourage more imports than they are prepared to pay for. It is satisfactory to learn that this is now being acted on, and that the value of imports for the half year ending 31st December last, has been nearly eighteen millions of dollars less than for the last half-year of 1874, while the exports have been reduced only about three millions.

The following table will show the description of goods exported in the year 1875 :—

GOODS THE PRODUCE OF CANADA.

Produce of the Mine	$ 3,878,050
" " Fishries	5,380,527
" " Forest	24,781,780
Animals and their Products	12,700,507
Agricultural Products	17,258,358
Manufactures	2,293,046
Miscellaneous Articles	409,181
Ships built at Quebec	789,456
	67,490,893
Goods not the Produce of the Dominion	10,396,086
Total Exports	77,886,979

If we are satisfied with our condition in Agriculture and Commerce, we should be much more so with our amazing progress in Manufactures, which may be seen by the table hereunder. This table is composed of extracts from the two last censuses, containing statements of the most important and useful of Industrial establishments and pursuits, placed in such a manner that the returns of one census may be easily compared with those of the other, and show the increase or decrease of any article from 1860 to 1870. The result to me, is very surprising, and unless there be some serious error in one or other of the Census tables, or in my own calculations, progress of these manufactures have been wonderful. I have used only the tables for Ontario and Quebec, as I have not seen any census for Nova Scotia or New Brunswick prior to that of 1870-'1

	1860-1		1870-1		
	No.	Yearly value of Produce.	No.	Yearly value of Produce.	Increase per Cent.
Flour Mills	951	$11,978,976	1,761	$37,073,510	209
Saw Mills	,974	3,516,695	3,545	22,282,551	531
Carding and Fulling Mills	150	180,614	483	1,746,772	867
Woolen Factories	132	1,018,988	256	5,281,097	418
Foundries	184	1,918,686	369	6,239,314	225
Tanneries	485	1,497,206	846	7,818,217	422
Cabinet Ware	168	439,596	754	3,165,567	620
Boots and Shoes	73	468,964	3,384	14,099,642	2,906
Agricultural Implements	63	713,220	240	2,674,821	275
Carriage Factories	251	688,778	2,262	4,336,577	529
Cooperage	70	252,110	1,141	1,602,857	339
Ship Yards	14	357,620	62	1,710,628	375
Distilleries	58	986,883	19	4,085,757	314
Breweries	106	740,259	131	2,015,849	172
Pot and Pearl Ashes	181	117,650	519	515,290	388
Shingle Factories	85	115,332	810	778,207	576

In conclusion, it may be safely asserted that for the last nine years we have prospered as well as could reasonably be expected, in the three sources of wealth mentioned in the lecture. In Agriculture we have had some drawbacks, but we still show a very respectable increase by the last census and the crop of 1875 was probably superior to any previous one in Canada.

In Commerce—notwithstanding the threatening aspect of the

last few years, occasioned in a great measure by over trading—we have had an increase of exports of over 35 per cent. during the nine years of confederation, with nearly one hundred millions of dollars collected as duties on imports in the first eight years.

In Manufacturies, however, we have made the greatest advance, as during the decade preceeding the last census, we have had the extraordinary increase of from three to four hundred per cent. on the principle articles of manufacture. We ought to be satisfied and thankful.